

Remarks

1. Introduction

Claims 15-25 are pending. Claims 15, 17, and 21 are independent claims.

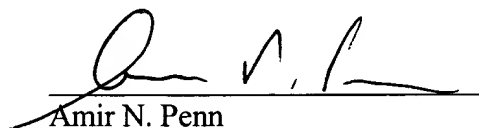
2. Rejection based on 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 15-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,719,614 (Miller et al.) in view of 6,086,457 (Perlov et al.). Applicants provide with this response a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.131 establishing that the claimed subject matter was made prior to the effective date of the Miller patent. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 15-25 are allowable over the Miller reference, either alone or in combination with the Perlov reference.

3. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit pending claims 15-25 are allowable in their present form, and hereby request allowance of claims 15-25. If any questions arise or issues remain, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number listed below in order to expedite disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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